



August 2017

WellSTAR Collaborating with Operators and external Stakeholders while driving innovation

### **Ken Harris Announcement**

Dear Operators,

Project WellSTAR

I'm excited to announce that we are on schedule with the launch of the first release of WellSTAR. On August 31, WellSTAR went live for our internal users. Over the course of the next several months, we will begin to roll out the system incrementally to our operator stakeholders. As we move deeper into Release 1.0, it is important to reiterate briefly the WellSTAR journey. The Division's plan to create a new modern database management system was first communicated in our 2015 Renewal Plan. As I mentioned in an earlier publication of the newsletter, WellSTAR is a cloud based application designed to help manage information by streamlining operations, simplifying processes, provide a better way for operators and the Division to collaborate, and, collect and analyze data.

In addition, we are leveraging on the experience of the Ground Water Protection Council and their expertise of having implemented the Risk Based Data Management System successfully in over 22 states. It is important to mention that with the introduction of a new system comes changes; some of these changes will affect both the Division and operators. WellSTAR will replace our existing legacy data management systems. WellSTAR will incorporate automation that will increase efficiencies, accountability, and compliance. These changes will also eliminate repetitive tasks and improve collaboration between the operators and the Division.

Furthermore, as we celebrate the achievement of this major milestone of Release 1.0, it is also important to mention that we are already working diligently on WellSTAR Release 2.0, which we expect to go live in the spring of 2018. Future releases will follow as the development and deployment of WellSTAR is expected to run through the spring of 2019.

## WellSTAR Release 1.0 August 31 GO LIVE!

Our cross functional teams' dedication and hard work to deliver a successful new user experience has led to our prioritization of the release plan into a "Crawl Walk/Run" approach to mitigate associated risks.

During the "crawl" phase we will slowly rollout access to the WellSTAR system to internal and a small number of external users. Additionally, the functionality of Release 1.0 will be limited to Entity (organization) Management and Bond Management.

This means the operators will be able to add their administrative information through the Entity page, and have the ability to verify or change their information such as contact details, agent details and other administrative information. The Bond functionality will allow access to each operator's bond information. Operators will be able to verify or update information as regards their bonds. The Division will closely monitor the Crawl phase to ensure that the system is effective with minimal or zero disruptions. The Crawl phase will gradually lead to the Walk phase with more users been introduced into the system.

### **Expectations for the Operators**

Operators will be gradually introduced to the new system and will be notified individually when they will have access to the system. It is also important to note that with the design of the rollout strategy, not all operators had access to the system on August 31st. As we progress to the "walk" phase more operators will be provided access to the new system. The Division will provide Computer Based Training for operators, that will be supported by the Division's internal training workgroup.

Operators' Workshop September 14, 2017

State of California \* Natural Resources Agency

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

Department of Conservation
Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
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Kenneth A. Harris Jr., State Oil and Gas Supervisor

September 1, 2017

#### Dear Operators:

In my letter dated January 12, 2017, I provided information around the WellSTAR project, including our partnership with the Ground Water Protection Council (GWPC) to implement their Risk-Based Data Management System (RBDMS). In the weeks that followed several project team-members conducted workshops around the state to provide more details around the schedule and functional releases of WellSTAR.

The deployment of WellSTAR Release 1.0 began August 31sl with our internal users. Over the course of the next several weeks and months, we will incrementally roll out the system to the operators. In order to prepare you all for this, we are hosting a workshop to provide additional details around each of the next two releases, as well as other information that will impact the operators during the implementation of WellSTAR.

As previously mentioned, the Division values your partnership as together we embark on this project. Your feedback is welcome; and essential to the success of WellSTAR. I encourage you to attend this upcoming information session:

Bakersfield: September 14, 2017 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Four Points by Sheraton The Ballroom 5101 California Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93309

This workshop will provide important information on the Release 1.0 implementation, Release 2.0 functionality (scheduled for April 2018) and the data model; including Business to Government (B2G) and Electronic Data Delivery (EDD). Anyone in your organization who interfaces with the Division is invited to learn more.

Please RSVP your attendance at wellstar@conservation.ca.gov.

For additional information regarding this project and other division-wide initiatives, please visit our web page. http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/for\_operators/Pages/OilGas-ForOperators.aspx

For questions or comments, please contact Jeff Newton at (916) 323-2890 or Jeff. Newton@conservation.ca.gov.

Operators September 1, 2017 Page 2

We value your collaboration and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Harris Jr., State Oil and Gas Supervisor



In October issue, Release 1.0 - Lessons Learned

# WellSTAR Team welcomes your comments!

Please send your comments and questions to WellSTAR@conservation.ca.gov.

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